

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
Office of the City Manager
Letter to Commission No. 230-2004



To: Mayor David Dermer and
Members of the City Commission

Date: August 26, 2004

From: Jorge M. Gonzalez
City Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jorge".

Subject: ACCREDITATION OF THE MIAMI BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT

The purpose of this LTC is to inform the Mayor and Commission that the Fire Department received Accreditation with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) at the CFAI meeting in New Orleans on August 11, 2004. This accreditation is a voluntary process predicated on the department involved evaluating itself and the community service levels. The Miami Beach Fire Department conducted a self assessment answering the following three basic questions:

1. Is the organization effective?
2. Are the goals objective and is the mission of the organization being achieved?
3. What are the reasons for the success of the organization?

The Fire Department began the accreditation process on March 31, 2001 and ended successfully in New Orleans on August 11, 2004. The process itself was very comprehensive and involved nearly one thousand hours of staff time to complete. The Fire Chief's Management Team and the entire Fire Department are to be commended for their success in achieving accreditation. Division Chief Christopher Parrino deserves special recognition for acting as Accreditation Manager and assuring that all the documentation needed for this process were obtained and on track with the CFAI's accreditation model.

I was in attendance to support the Fire Department before the full CFAI Commission and at the Awards Ceremony, together with Mayor David Dermer, Commissioner Luis Garcia, Union President David Noel and Union Vice-President Adonis Garcia. Our presence and comments left a positive impression with CFAI Commission.

Currently the City of Miami Beach is part of a select group of 9 out of 645 Fire Departments in the State of Florida, and only 102 Fire Departments worldwide, who have achieved accreditation status. We can all be proud of our Fire Department's achievement which demonstrates a professional organization that provides assurances to peers and the public that the department has defined objectives and strives to meet or go beyond them.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to let me know.

C: Floyd Jordan, Fire Chief
F:cmgr/all/LTC04/Fire Accreditation

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